## NEW YORK HERALD. JAMES GORDON BENNETT.

ED TO . AND PROPRIETOR. OFFICE N. W. CORPER OF NASSAU AND FULTON STS.

THE WEEKLY HERALD, we produce the processing of the control of the formation of the formati VOLUNTERY CORRESPONDENCE, equipment into thereto your restriction of quarter of the month of and the control of the contro

NEW YEAR'S AMUSSMENTS.

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OF THE CARE BENEFY AMERICAN BORRESO GOOD ADOR - LOVE AND MUNDE. EVERING - KING JOHN - POCK BORTAL BURTON S NEW THEATRE, Broadway, opposite Bond st. - Twenten Night-Script Inc.

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CHAMBRES STREET THEATRE, date Burton's After Become Risaldy Engaloist - Children in the Woods-Joley Cobbler, Evenius - Aste Spectro-Minute Con at Sea -Booky Maris Him Made.

BERNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway-Morn-ber-lives has of Manualsten. Afternoon and Evening-Compensate.

SHO CHRISTY AND WOOD'S MINSTRELS, 441 Broad-TRY ETHIOFILY PROTOSMANCES—NEW YEAR CALLS. BUCKERYS SERVADERS, 185 Broadway - ETHIOPIAN

New York, Thursday, January 1, 1857.

The steamship Niagara arrived at Halifax last night, with Liverpool dates to the 20th ult.

The steamship Fulton, which left Havre on the 17th ult, arrived at this port yesterday afternoon, after a stormy passage. Our advices by the Fulton amounting the safety of the Hermann will bring rehef to many an anxions heart. The Hermain, after encountering some dreadful heavy weather and seas sunning "mountains high," was forced to put back to Southampton for repairs. All her passengers, with the exception of two, who have remained for the transaction of private business, were landed safely from the Fulton. The passengers of the Hermann, when at Southampton, passed a series of resolutions approving of the conduct of Captain Hig gins and his officers. The political news by the Fulton is not important. It is said that Sicily was again quiet and that the revolution at Palermo had been suppressed. The would-be assassin of the King of Naples was hanged. The aspect of the reintions existing between Prussia and Switzerlan? was still very gloomy, and further complaints were looked for. The English declaration of war against Persia had caused much excitement both in Burope and Asia. The government proclamation which recapitulates England's causes of complaint against the Shah is given, but many of ber best friends regret the step now taken as tending to ensure the advance of Russia further eastward. Queen Victoria and the royal family visited the Arctic discovery ship Resolute at Cowes, and were received by Captain Hartstein in a manner worthy an American officer and gentleman. Rev. Dr. Livingston had made some highly interesting statements in London with respect to the scenes of his explorations in the interior of Africa. It is thought that another expedition would be sent out in search of Frankiin. In England the money market had improved. Cotton was firm, and bread

The brig Beauty, at Halifax from Jamaica, reports picking up, on the 9th of November, in latiande 40, one of the boats of the unfortunate steamer Lyonnais. The boat was bottom up, the starboard side stove, the oars lashed to the thwarts, and a higsail mast floating alongside. In the boat was a cask of water, and a life-buoy marked "Le Lyonwais." also a white shirt and a fine cambric hand ker hief marked "F. E." We have examined the pa-senger list of the Lyonnais, but find no name corresponding with these initials. The Lyonnais quently but six days clapsed from the time of her disaster till the capsized boat alluded to was picked up by the Beauty. Mr. Poirrier, the agent of the Franco-American Steamship Company, has received ne further intelligence in reference to the captain and onempers of the Lyonnais who were stated to have arrived at Bordeaux.

the steamship Vigo, which left Havre on the 10th ult. is now in her twenty-second day out. We learn by the Fulton that the Hermann, when forced to put back, met the Vigo two days out from the above port; but owing, doubtless, to the tempestone state of the Atlantic, she has been unable : reach New York ere this. No fears are entertained for her safety, as she has on board 1,200 tons of coal, sufficient for thirty days, and her commander, Captain Sharp, is an officer of tried experience.

The Vigo is hourly expected. Our correspondent at Washington states that the United States Supreme Court have come to a de cision upon the important questions presented in the case of Dred Scott, recently argued before that pritomal. Judges Taney of Maryland, Daniel of Virginia, Wayne of Georgia, Catron of Tennessee, Nelson of New York, and Grier of Pennsylvania, hold that Congress has no power over the question of slavery in the Territories, and that the Missouri compromise is unconstitutional, and therefore of no effect. Judges McLean of Ohio, and Curtis of Massuchusetts, hold that Congress has power over the question of slavery in the Territories. The decision will be formally announced in a few days by Chief Justice Tapey.

Whoever is so unfortunate as to be compelled to transact business with either our State or City officials will find in this morning's paper complete justs of the names of the executive, legislative and judicial functionaries, together with those of the heads of the various subordinate departments. Those who study the fluctuations of the public bealth will find in our statistics of the past year's mortality matter for reflection and specular These interested in the progress of our even steam marine will find detailed with great apcuracy the time occupied in crossing the Atlantic by the various steamships. The philanthropist when he peruses our record of the doings of the criminal courts, will lament the degradation that abounds in our midst, while all must rejoice at the increased prosperity of the metropolis, as exhibited a the table showing the number of vessels which

have arrived at this port during the year 1856. A rabular statement of the names of those eleva! ed personages who will exércise a sovereign power ever the people of the world, from New Year's day, is published elsowhere. Their executive designs tions, with the dates on which they succeeded to office, are also given. This paper will be found very useful for reference, and in these days of and den dynastic charges may become important, for although we will start clear as to our knowledge of the royal and Presidential record, we do not snow how soon our ideas may be confused by the noise and depositions produced by wholesome revolutionary oprisings. During the year which ended last wight many important changes have taken place. Two prominent men have been relieved from the cause of office, and will soon seek the sweets of ret rement, vig.: Frankiln Pierce, who vacates the chair which Mr. Buchanan will fill, and George Augustus, King of Mosquito, who is set aside by the red taplets of Eag land and the United States, lest his further exercise of royal functions should produce an Angla-Saxon imbenglio, General Walker assumed the pears of office as Possident of Nicaragua during the past twelvementage, and the fields of mis govern. Philips and Parker

ment are yet before us. Soner Ospina has been elected Governor of New Granada, where he will inaugurate a conservative regimé, and Manuel Montt has been chosen for the second time President of Chile, by the friends of order, religious toleration and general progress. Santos Guardiola is the new President of Hondures; Senor Campo will rule in San Salvador, whilst the people of Uraguay seem

contented with their choice of Den Gabriel Pereira-Both branches of the Common Council met yesterday. In the Board of Aldermen some unimportant routine business was transacted, and resolutions comprimenting the President, the clerks and the reporters of the press were adepted. In the fload of Conncilmen a message was received from the Mayor vetoing the tax levy for 1857 because of the omission of an appropriation for the improvement of the Central Park and to pay deficiencies for services rendered on account of said Park. The Mayor also returned unsigned the resolution giving to the Street Commissioner power to employ a surveyor to make survey of the proposed new grade of Pearl street and the streets that intersect the Bowery extension. These documents may be found in our report of the proceedings. The stereotyped vote of thanks was agreed to, and the Common Council of 1856 expired. May their many sins be forgiven, and may their successors prove more worthy of the important trust confided to their charge. Amen!

The Commissioners of Emigration, in response to the action of the Ten Governors, state that the law forbids them to provide for emigrant lunatics, and they intimate that the Governors are liable to a cri minal presecution if they decline to provide for this unfortunate class of altens. The Commissioners give a gentle hint to the Governors to beware, or they may become immates of their own penitentiary.

Louis Baker, the hero of the Stanwix Hall tra gedy, was yesterday released from imprisonmen bail in five thousand dollars having been previously given in his behalf. Patrick McLaughlin and James Purper were included in the order of release, but they are held in custody to answer another charge. At the cattle market yesterday there was a good demand for beeves, but the quality of the stock presented for sale not being above the average, no advance in prices was realized. Prices ranged from 7je. to 10je. per pound, and a few of the best de scription brought 11c. There was but a moderate supply on hand. About 90,000 head of beef cattle have been brought to this market during the past year, and the prices have ranged from 70. to 14 c. per pound, according to quality. Cows and calves, yeal calves, sheep and lambs, and swine sold freely at the rates quoted in another column.

The sales of cotton yesterday embraced 1,500 bales at full prices, the market closing firm. The Fulton's news was received at too late a period in the day to affect prices, and it was not supposed that it would have any influence. Flour continued dull, and common grades were easier, while sales were light. Wheat was inactive and sales limited. including Chicago spring at \$1 40, and Southern white at \$1.76. Corn sold to a limited extent at unchanged prices. Pork was in fair request, while prices were unaltered. Sugars were firm, but quiet. We refer to another column for an account of stock. Coffee was quiet, but steady. A notice of stock will be found in another place. Ship owners demanded higher rates to Liverpool, which tended to check engagements, waich were moderate, but made at full rates.

THE CONVICTION OF HUNTINGTON .- A great and good thing in behalf of justice, public morality, individual bonesty and the safety of soclety has been achieved in the coaviction and sentence of Huntington, the forger and swindler, to the utmost penalty of the law. Considering he success of New York financiers, defaulters, political rowdies, bullies, burglars and assassins, n escaping the penalty of their crimes, through "the law's delay," and the tricks of artful shysters and corrupt officials we had reason to fear the acmittal of Huntington upon some microscopic law, some technical informality or a divided nry. The result, therefore, exceeds our highest expectations in behalf of justice, law and order, We are disposed to regard it as the imaggiration fians and swindling financiers before our courts. The conviction and the full sentence of Huntingon are particularly gratifying in view of the outrageous defence set up for the criminal by his counsel. 'Moral insanity!" The impudence of this plea stands out in conspicaous reliev grand, gloomy and peculiar." "Moral insay !" We have no doubt that the shocking inso ence of this miscrable discovery contributed much to give emphasis to the verdict of the jury and the sentence of the Indee.

But this "moral insunity" did not stop with the criminal. One would suppose that the poison had almost as seriously affected the counsel for the prisoner in "another form," or that they would not have gone out of their way to make war upon the liberty of the press. We agree that it would have better served the cause of the criminal and the wishes of his counsel, had the public press kept modestly silent upon the subject during the trial, including a total suppression of the proceedings in court; but still, the denunciationuttered against the press by prisoner's counsel. because of a different line of newspaper policy were but a waste of breath and displeasure, and to the prisoner were worse than useless. There was a legal line of defence which Huntington's counsel might have adopted with better results for their client and themselves-to wit-the mitigation plea-that the forgeries complained of were not in reality perfected, and were not forgeries in the ordinary legal sense of the word, but financial xperiments of a "confidence man," of a bold and dushing, and singularly romantic and successful character. But let us, while congratula ting the community that the peculiar defence of this dashing swindler has contributed to his conviction and sentence, also express the hope that is case gives the quietus to this insolent dodge of "moral insanity."

THE DISUSION PINE-EATERS AND FANATICS-MASSACHUSETTS AREAD.-We published some days ago a call for a disunion convention at Worcester. Massachusetis, the signers of the paper pleading the South Carolina plea that the two sections are as widely estranged as two separate nations, and that accordingly it would be best to have the Union desolved, and an independent Northern and a separate Southern confederacy. These Massachusetts disunion fanatics are thus considerably ahead of the fire eaters of South Carolina The latter have threatened disunion upon this or that contingency happening, in which event they will march upon Washington, seize the public archives, rob the treasury, and fall back upon Charleston and set up a Southern confederacy; but there Massachusetts and other Northern disuniquists propose disunion right away, upon its own merits, and this proposed convention is to deliberate upon the ways and means for expediting the work. We recommend Chevaliers Brooks, Rhett, Toombs, Keitt, Wise, Mason, and other coetiegent Southern disunionists, to be on hand when this Worcester flat-footed disunion convention comes off. They may, perhaps, learn a thing or two upon the subject from their boider Northern discuson brethren, such as Garrison,

1856.

of those eventful years which mark historical epochs. Such years as 1812, 1815, 1830, 1848, can only be expected at rare intervals; and no better test of general prosperity can be found than the rarity of their occurrence. How few strik ing years have marked our own history. Passing over the initial years which witnessed the Decla ration of Independence, the peace with England. and the inauguration of Washington, the succeeding annals are dull till 1812, when the successful vindication of American nationality sheds a brief light over the scene; to be followed by a period of sober, dull fact till-when shall we say? Some will protest that the Missouri compromise ought to redeem 1820 from obscurity; others will have it that Jackson's election and the final entombment of the ghost of federalism ought to make us remember 1829, some will sorrowfully recollect 1837, and the same will plead that 1846 should be saved from oblivion by the tariff of that year; all will agree that the campaigns of Scott and the acquisition of California embalm the dates 1847 and 1848.

The year 1856 has no such glories or disasters to keep it in memory, and it will be forgotten, and will claim but little space in history. The events of the year, so far as the United States are concerned, have evidently been the contest in Kansas, and the squabbles with England. How important these matters seemed to us at the time, yet how trivial they will appear to the historian! What shall he say of Kansas? That this Territory, prepared for education by a sound organic act, was overrun by settlers from New England on the one side and from Missouri and some Southern States on the other, each desirous of establishing their own peculiar form of labor there, and excluding all others; that these two sets of settlers growled at each other, and even came to hard knocks, as became their sincerity and their stalwart, earnest Anglo-Saxon lineage; that, thereupon, a poor man named Pierce, who wanted to purchase Southern support, unlawfully interfered and tried to establish a military despotism in the Territory, whereat the whole strong heart of the North rebelled; but that Pierce, losing his chance of re-election, gave up his unlawful schemes, and left the men of Kansas to their own devices; upon which the whole hubbub subsided. and people forgot all about Kansas. What shall he say of our disputes with England? That a foolish minister of hers, under foolish instructions from Lord Palmerston, broke our laws, and was sent about his business, as he deserved. and that the English made up their minds to it : that after being led to the brink of a quarrel about Central America by the knavish schemes of politicians, the people of the two nations in a frank manly way, agreed that there was nothing to fight about, and forced their dipiomatists to make terms of settlement; and that after all the noise, the dispute euded in smoke Here are slender materials for history.

Europe will remember yearly the treaty of peace. When the year opened the horizon looked gloomy enough for Russia. Her finances were exhausted, she was beaten in the duel at Sebastopol, her fleets were sunk, her ports blockaded, and there was a very clear prospect that in the season of 1856. Cronstadt would be made to follow Sebastopol, and peace might be dictated in the palace at St. Petersburg. Austria was on the point of joining the Western Powers, and, so far as human foresight could go, it seemed certain that Russia would be crushed. Accordingly, Alexander saved himself by making peace, at ome cost of territory, and more cost of prestige.

Since the treaty, the year has been consumed n petty bickerings touching its fulfilment. France has bickered with England, and England has bickered with Russia; at the time we write, preparations are being made for a new conference, out of which almost anything may grow. Naples has continued to be the prey of one of the most intolerable despots in the world. Spain has takes a retrograde step, and trembles on the verge of the usual quadrennial revolution. Persia, instigated by Russia, has broken the treaty with England and laid siege to Herat: thus provoking a war, the beauty of which is that the antagonists cannot possibly get at each other.

Commercially, the year has been an eminent prosperous one. The cessation of the drain is the war has greatly relieved the commercial world. But from the fact that that dealn was mostly supplied by hypothecations of the future. the severity of the pressure has not been yet withdrawn. But it has been concealed. The French government, which is really on the verge of bankruptcy, has made strengous efforts to coa ceal its condition, and has thus been led into favoring various financial bubbles, which, in a sounder state, it would not have countenanced for a moment. In a similar manner, the remarkable prosperity and wonderful exuberance of this country have encouraged the formation of corporate institutions, on a basis sometimes quite ins. dequate, and on principles at war with sound financial policy. The railroad system, which has received an extension commensurate with the extent of our country and the speculative and enterprising genius of our people, has been pushed to limits which place it beyond a doubt that al @ future agricultural and industrial developeme t of this country will be without example, but also that nearly all our railroads, having accomplished their purpose as instruments of development will be failures, as speculations for a profit. The country can well afford to lose them in view . f the enormously increased wealth which they will have been the means of creating.

OLD BULLION,-"Old Bullion" is a brick Should be survive four or five years longer, his Ten Years Out of the Senate, will make a much more graphic and interesting book than his Thirty Years in the Senate." Look at the raw materials. His stumping campaigns in Missouri; his election to the House; his failure to secure a e-election; his support of Buchanan for President in spite of the "ipecac" democratic plat orm, in opposition to Old Bullion's favorite sonn-law, because of the republican platform. What Roman firmness, and what Bentonian consistency were there! Brutus sacrificing his son to justice and for Rome was a small potato circomstance compared with Old Bullion's sacrifice of Col. Fremont for the sake of the Union, and the chances of six years more in the Senate, What a glorious theme for the historian! And then, that famous copyrighted stump speech for saving the Union, when the danger is all over Bentonian, out-and-out, including the refusal to receive a compensation for speaking it; but consenting to accept two hundred in the way of a compliment.

And then his lecture on the Pilgrims in New York-what an interesting discourse on the marvellous virtues and the wonderful adven-

term "lady," as unbecoming a virtuous woman, because the Cyprians of King Charles the Second were called ladies; and because this modern term of "lady" is not to be found in the Bible, nor in Plutarch's Lives, nor in Benton's Thirty Years in the Senate—the three great books of the three great epochs of the world. Finally, it is most interesting of ail to find "Old Bullion" caught napping on a matter of Scripture. He must give us his Bible translation in which the term "lady" is not to be found, or confess the corn that his "Thirty Years' View" on this subject goes for nothing; for in at least one popular translation of the Bible has the venerable linguist been cornered, chapter and verse, in a dozen different places, by a " lady."

We hope that "Old Bullion" will keep up his present active career for four or five years to come, and then give us his "Ten Years Out of the Senate." It will be a great book. Meantime, in consideration of his patent right stump speech for saving the Union, at two hundred dollars a reading, we wish Old Bullion "A Happy New

Russian Diplomacy.

Almost simultaneously with our announce ment that the Russian embassy at Washington was laboring to effect the appointment of Mr. Cass as Mr. Buchanan's Secretary of State, we perceive a confirmation of the lately prevalent rumors regarding the diplomatic intrigues of Russia in Asia, and learn that the Czar is really about to give effective support to the Shah of Persia. To make the case of the war in Persia clear in a few words, we may say that for nearly a century the Persians have endeavored at regular intervals to conquer the independent Principality of Herat. The English try to prevent them because Herat is the key to Affghanistan, and consequently to the northwestern provinces of British India; the Russians encourage them, because Herat is within arm's length of the Russian possessions on the Caspian, could be taken from Persia by Russia at a moment's notice, and could serve as a basis for Russian military operations against British India. To secure their point, the English, after the famous siege of 1838, made the Shah sign a treaty binding bimself and his successors not to melest Herat. To carry his point, the Emperor of Russia made a treaty offensive and defensive with Persia, promising to supply the Shah with men whenever he went to war. Such was the position of the two rivals during the ten years 1840-1850; and alternately Russian and British influence preponderated at Teheran. The contest was finally terminated by the superior diplomatic skill of the Russian envoys. Colonel Sheil, who represented England in Persia before Mr. Murray, was a very good cavalry officer, but a very bad diplomatist; the Russians got the better of him, and made themselves the real sovereigns of Persia. The rest followed naturally. The English struggled feebly for awhile: then struck their flag and shut up their embassy. Left masters of the field, the Russians excited the new invasion of the territory of Herat, and promised a reinforcement of fifty thousand men. With such a force, nothing could prevent the Russians from subjugating the whole flank of British India from Khiva to Candahar and

The mind loses itself in the attempt to follow the Russians through the multiplicity of their intrigues. The Jesuits were fools to them. They have their emissaries at every Council board throughout the world, and their peculiar policy on questions apparently the most foreign to their nterests, and the most indifferent to their wel-

A long war has hardly emancipated the Court now, the best informed writers insinuate that the recent change in the Turkish ministry has been effected by Russian intrigue, and that the Enlish must prepare for a decline in their influence While this is the case at the capital, one half the Sultan's subjects in the Provinces are nursed by Russian emissaries to a state of chronic insur rection. The Armenians pray for the day of Russian conquest. The Greek cities of the empire very paturally sigh for the same event.

Greece, now temporarily under Western tute loge, has hardly ever risen above the rank of a Russian province. History does not contain another such lamentable tale as that of Russian intrigue in Greece. Catherine, rousing the unhappy Greeks to rebellion by false promises, and faith less pledges of support, deserts them as soon as ever the day of danger comes; and writes to Voltaire that the people whom she has betrayed to their rain and death, are a race of rogues. Alexander, detailing his aides-de-camp on special duty to stir up rebellion in Greece, procuring for his triend and counsellor Ipsilanti the leadership of the Greek revolutionary society, turns his back on Greece as soon as the Turks show fight, and Europe warms with sympathy; for five years he lets the Greeks be massacred. Nicholas, forced to interfere, does certainly help to make Greece free; but it is on condition that his tool Capo d'Istrias shall be President. Him dead, the same Nicholas will still betriend Greece; but be must have another tool-the Bavarian Otho-othe ridiculous Greek throne. And from that day to this, the Greeks have never had leave from Russia to say their souls were their own. Bu: for the French garrison, they would have been bullied into the late war.

At Vienna, the Russian party is in the shadat present; it has been in the ascendant for years, and no doubt soon will be again. The King of Prussia, a prudent, sagacious man, always used to say that he found his best counsellor in Nicholas of Russia; and certainly, the Emperor was not sparing of counsels. At Paris, all the correspondents say that the efforts which are being made by the Russians to produce an impression, create a party, and exercise political influence, are prodigious; it is openly asserted that the ground they have gained since the treaty of Paris will be seen when the Conference is re opened. In the Scandinavian kingdoms, politic: 1 parties are usually called the Russian party. and the Swedish or the Danish party, as the case may be; the Russians have always about as much to do with the government of these countries as the people themselves. At Naples it is the Russian ambassador who embolden Ferdinand to stand out against the maritime Powers and the liberals of his own kingdom. Same story everywhere. The Emperor of

Brazil derives the greatest comfort and assistance from the friendly advice and sympathy of the Russian diplomatists accredited to his court The Emperor of China declares to his people that the English, French and Americans are much more to be feared than the Russians, Japan is ready to grant to Russia greater favors than she concedes to any other nation. There is no part of the world, in fact, where you will not find Russian tures of Old Bullion. Next, his rejection of the influence actively at work, seeking to advance the special interests of Russia by means of diplomacy, bribery, eloquence and adroit management. Hitherto, the Russians have let the United States alone. But, now, we see, they are at work here as elsewhere, scheming, contriving and intriguing to form Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet on a purely Muscovite basis-their rival, England, being by her own act, excluded from the field, and powerless to oppose them.

The Penny Press in England.

Nearly two years have elapsed since the news paper tax was repealed in England, and the effects of that measure have had time to be fully tested. Several newspapers have been started at low prices, and considerable efforts have been made to force them into general circulation. Some of these have died. Others still survive; but if we may judge from their appearance and the general tenor of the reports concerning them, they are not in a healthy condition. In a word, so far as appears at present, the experiment of cheap newspapers in the British capital has been a failure. Yet it is quite certain that cheap literary food and news are a commodity for which a large demand exists in London and the whole of England. It follows that the cau of the failure of the penny papers has he the wrongness of the basis upon which been s'arted, but some errors it manner in which they have been In examining the princi-

London, such as the Sta fir so ig which so de accusthe Times. They e heavy editorial, about the same heavy Parliamentary subject, written in the same conventional British newspaper slang, and intended for the private reading of a select circle of politicians. Again they have the same heavy Parliamentary debates, whole columns of solid small type about Maynooth grants, or the rights of the Bishops, filling up one side of the paper. Their news is on the same plan. Their foreign correspondents entertain them with grave and strictly gentlemanly conjectures about the probable designs of certain foreign courts. Their domestic reporters acquaint them with the fact that there was an eclipse visible from the dome of St Paul's, and that H. R. H. P. Albert went out shooting, attended by divers lords and colonels in livery. Their advertisements, even, are cut in the same solid block, and penned with the same strict eye to British propriety. We have serious announcements that the Typhus Assurance Company is prepared to take lives at the shortest notice and on the lowest terms; that the ship Enterprise will sail for Calcutta on such a day; that Mr. Robins sells . Paradise on Tuesday, and a phaeton and pair (the property of a gentleman removed to the Continent) on Wednesday, at ten.

Now, we cannot speak confidently for our trans-Atlantic pelgibors, but we strongly suspect that this sort of reading is not more interesting to them than it would be to us. The class of society which enjoys elaborate leading articles, full of double entendres and delicate allusions, Maynooth grant debates, and cozy soporifies about the designs of the Court of Berlin or Austria, can afford to pay ten cents for the Times, and rather piques itself on subscribing to the most expensive newspaper. To attempt to wean the sturdy British commoner, the man of acres or bank stock, from his Times, is certainly to lose one's pains.

On the other hand, the class which would be glad of a penny paper does not care for any of these heavy matters. It wants news, but light, agreeable, popular news; not stupid political speculations; but accidents and murders, and battles and shipwrecks, and runaway matches, and private squabbles of lords, but about the high price of fish and the Sunday music, and the great pread of scarlet fever, and the reasons why the sarines haven't got their prize money, and the consequences of emigrating to America, and the right of everybody who can read to vote, and so on, through all the range of subjects which form the ordinary conversation of the intelligent poor. It should not do violence to these people's minds, by attempting to cram down their throats things they don't like; but should lead them, gently, luring them by a promise of familiar to a knowledge of better things. So for domestic news. A paragraph is all that Parliament deserves. The rest of the domestic news columns should be devoted to the reporting of such meetings as we always give in full here, and they never notice in England, and to a record of the "short but simple annals of the poor." A paper framed on this model would, we think, be likely to succeed in England at the price of a penny: and in the course of ten years it might have a revenue of £10,000 to £12,000, and would be a power in the realm greater than the Times or the House of Lords.

But the idea, hitherto, seems to have fallen upon stony ground.

Last Act of the Stanwix Hall Tragedy-Baker and Others Admitted to Ball. SUPREME COURPY—SPECIAL TERM.

Drc. 31 .- The People in Lewis Baker, Patrick McLing! lin, James Turner, John Hyler, and Cornelius Linn .-The prisoner, Baker, who was twice tried for the mur der of William Potte in Stanwix Hall-the jury on each occasion being unable to agree-was this day brought up on a writ of habeas corpus, and his discharge on bai demanded by his counsel, Mr. Jas. T. Brady. A similar application was made on behalf of the other prisoners. Judge Davies made the following order:-The prisoner Lewis Baker, being brought before ma, it is returned the he is held in custody by virtue of commitments upon an indictment charging him and Patrick McLaughlin, and James Terner, and John Holer, and Cornelius Line joint by with homicide. The District Attorney for the people. on an application now made to ball the prisoners, con sents to the same (and consents that the joint defendant be considered as personally present with Lowis Baker), and by agreement I find the bail to be given in the num

of \$6,000 each, in good and sufficient surety; and thereuron that each of the detendants, Lewis Baker, McLaughlin and Turner be discharged from dustody.

Mr James McCrea, of Seventh avenue, became bail for Baker in the amount of \$5,000. Turner and McLaughlin had not procured bondsmen at the rising of the Court, but even if they had they would not have been ret at liberty, as the District Attorney has another charge against them arising out of another case.

Laura Keene's Theatre-A New Piece.

A translation of Je dine ches ma Mere, under the title A transmin of Je time one ma Mere, under no the first time last evening. It is a nest little one act comedy, ormed by the elaboration of a single incident. Sophic Arnould (Miss Laura Keene), a popular prima denna, has ordered a capital dinner for New Year's Day, expecting some of her friends to dine with her. They all decline even to her toulrette, on the plea "I dine with my mother" Finally comes an artist whom Sophia has known before she became distinguished, and who has painted the portrait of her mother. He invites Sophie to dine with his mother, which invitation she at first ac cepts, and changes her dress to come down to the habit the beargeous. A second thought makes her decide to dine with her own mother, and she aits down opposite the cortrait, which is the end of the play. The idea is very cleverly worked up by Miss Koene, Miss C. Jeffer son and Mr. Wheatleigh. Miss Roome's acting is especially excellent, and the piece was received with approhatlen by a very good house. Mr. Conries Mel achies be the author of the English version.

THE LATEST NEWS BY PRINTING AND MAGNETIC TLEGRAPHS.

Another Boat of the Lyonnals Piked up a Sea.

The brig Beauty, from Jamaica, arrived at B Saturday night, reports that on her gutward vo Nov. 9, in lat. 40 she picked up a whale bost, bo Nov. 9, in at. 40 mile starboard side stove and cars landed to inwarts, witugail mast floating alongside. The boat contained a of water, and a life buoy may ked "Led Fonnais, Havre also a white shirt and a fine cambric handkerchief mark

Important from Washington, DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT IN THE DRI SCOTT CASE—PERSECUTION OF OWN. SCOTT.

WASHINGTON, D have come to a decision in the Dred Sconargued before them. All the judy gress has no power over the torirles, and that the Mis tional, consequently has powe

> It is rather late harges, the only purpose of the bill now pending before the

ime with Mr. Buchanan, is expected this evening. Mr. Ward, one of Mr. Buchanan's confidential friends, ar rived here to day.

Monday next. United States Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31, 1856. Joshus A. Brown, of New York, was admitted to the

Case No. 2 .- Berjamin F. Morning vs. Alfred S. Guptemus et al. Cause submitted to the Court, on record and a printed argument by Mr. Washburn for plaintiff. No. 36.—William K. Post et al., claimants of the cargo of the ship Richmond, vs. John H. Jones et al. Argued by Mr. O'Conor for appellants, and Mr. Lord for appellees Adjourned till Friday,

The Missouri Legislature-Arrest for Forgery. The Missouri Legislature organized permanently yeste

day. W. D. McCracker, democrat, was chosen Secretary of the Senate, and Robert Harrison, democratic whigh Speaker of the House. The Bentonius and imerican used in exposition to the democrats.

E. C. Davis, tate Superintendent of Public Schools, has been arrested here for lorgeries on various persons and banking houses, amounting to \$12,200

Fatal Railroad Casualty. NEW HAVEN, Dec. 31, 1856.

The seven o'clock train from New York this morning struck a covered wagon, near Milford, in which were Wm. Kelsey and Gilbert Netileton, instantly killing Kelsey and nearly killing Nettleton. Both belonged in Milford.

Conflagrations Throughout the Country.

FIRE AT PATERSON, N. J.

PATERSON, Dec. 31, 1856.

A destructive fire occurred here last night, on the cor ner of Main and Van Houten streets. Eight stores were that consumed, together with the entire contents. The stores of vandaryout & Snyder, dry goods; A. St tenberough, dry goods; W. Tunison, dry goods; KcKh bakery, a shoe store adjoining, D. Alton, takenoon James Dunn, confectioner; Mrs. Kelly, variety is: Beam & Taylor, shoes and boots, were condamaged by water. Also several other buildings at the street were more or less damaged by fire water. The total loss is estimated at \$50,000.

FIRE AT ARRON, OHIO.

BUFFALO, Dec. 31, 1856. The Beacen office, at Akron, Obio, was burned on Monday morning, together with Messrs. Beebe and Elker's bookstore, Welmore & Co,'s agricultural store, and Bowen & Barber's grocery store. Several adjoining buildings were also greatly lajored.

FIRE AT MILAN, OHIO.
CLEVELADD, Dec. 31, 1856.
The grist mill and saw mill of Mesars. Morry & Gay, at Milan, Obio, together with Mocker & Skinners' block actory, were burnt yesterday mording. The former's less is estimated at from \$12,000 to \$15,000; the falter's at \$5,000. No insurance.

FIRE AT LOUISVILLE, KY. Louisvitie, Dec. 31, 1856.

The Medical Department of the University of Louisville was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is covered by insurance, and enough of the apparatus was saved to enable the lectures to be continued in the Law Depart-

Departure of the Steamship Canada.

Bostos, Dec. 31, 1856. The royal mail steamship Canada sailed for Halifax and Liverpool at tweive o'clock to day, with eleven parsengers for the former and thirty two for the latter port. Among the passengers for Halifax was Cyrus W. Field, Esq., of New York, who goes to Newfoundland to make arrangements in connection with the proposed transatiantic telegraphic cable Mr. Field will return probably in about two weeks. The Canada takes out about \$273,000 in specie.

Movements of Southern Steamers. THE ALABAMA AT SAVANNAH. SAVANNAH, Dec. 30, 1856.

The steamer Alabams, from New York, arrived here to-day.

THE STEAMER NASHVILLE AT CHARLESTON.

The United States mail steamphip Nashville arrived here at 7 o'clock on Monday night.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31, 1886.

PHOOKE steady. Pennsylvania 5's, 83; Reading Railroad, 42%; Long Island Railroad, 13's; Morrie Causi, 1856.

Pennsylvania Railroad, 47's.

New OHLEASE, Dec. 31, 1856.

Cotton—Sales to-day 600 bales; prices without quotable change. Sugar quiet; sales at \$5'c. Becadetuits very dull. Pork quiet. Lard, in barrols, 112'c. Exchange on London 1'st per cent premium. The weather has been very wet.

Charleston, Dec. 30, 1856.

Cotton sales to day 15,000 bales, at at advance of 10. a 10. Good midding, 12340.

Affairs at Washington

EXTRACTS OF CORRESPONDESS FROM OTHER PAPERS.
[Correspondence of the Courier and Enquirer.]

Washington, Dec. 22, 1859.

The Case of Engine Harlan.

The disputed question of Mr. Harlan's right to a sent as

Washington, Dec. 22, 1859.

The Care of Sension Harlam.

The disputed queries of Mr. Harlam's right to a seat as Senstor from lows, has become of much interest and importance. Mr. Harlam is one of the ablest and most efficient members of the Sensie, and is a valuable support to the repusifican came. He was elected by a majority vote of the whole Legislature; but the State Sensie, in which there was a small democratic majority, refused to attend the joint convention of both Humess on the day of his election; although on a previousless the same body had, by a regular vote, and in pursuance of a constitutional provision, gone into convention. The joint convention and important of the sensit, by a party vote, adjoined over beyond that day. The required for the farias, the democrate contended that the Sensie could not set as a body, her could any member of it and in the joint convention on a day in which the Sensie was not in ression. In a word, they protested against the election, because, as they asserted, the Sensie bad not taken any part in the under advisement in the linted factors, because, as they asserted, the Sensie bad not taken any part in it.

The came has been under advisement in the United that the Sansie for two sensions, and has been referred to the Committee on the Judicary, which it is hoped will report immediately after the hairdays. The lows Logislature will be in ression throughout the month of February, and should Mr. Harlan be unseated within that time, he will be immediately re-excited.

and should Mr. Harlan be uneased within that time, he will be immediately re-eccled.

The hearing of this case opon the pending elections in Indiana and Pennsylvania is very important. The republicans have the State Senate of Indiana by four or similarity, and that of Pennsylvania by three. The election is each State attracts much auxious solicities. Mr. Britania suitants much auxious solicities. Mr. Formey, and Mr. Britani, President of the Senate, and a rapidly rist g candinate for the Presidency of the United State, is the favorite of his party for the succession to himself. The republicans to both States costemplate recent go said their position openment to fill either of the three vacancies—by going into convention with them, and thus giving them the advantage of their majority as joint ballet. The demograte are estopped from on any piant of this proceeding, because it is the proceeding by the history of the proceeding of their majority as joint ballet. The demograte are estopped from on any piant of this proceeding, because it is the proceeding by the history of the proceeding of their proceeding of the p temed effectery and ingentity, have started ine doc-tribe that if the Senate refuses to meet the House at all, the derectable minority may go into convenion with